

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 4, 6, 8-31, 35-44 are pending in the application; claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 32-34 are canceled; claim 44 is being added.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102**

Claims 1, 23-25, 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Shinada* (US 5,475,523).

Claim 1 has been amended to define a microfiche device having a light source configured to emit a light beam for exposing during an exposure time a microfilm based on a data stream supplied to said light source by a computer for generating differently sized image formats on the microfilm. At least one optical device is positioned between the light source and the microfilm such that the light beam is guided through the at least one optical device to the microfilm. The at least one optical device comprises an optical unit rotatable about a rotational axis and linearly moveable in a direction along said rotational axis to guide the light beam across a width and a length of a portion of the microfilm curved about the rotational axis during the exposure time such that the differently sized image formats are produced in any arrangement on the microfilm. The instant specification discloses different image formats or sizes in connection with Figs. 10 and 11. The relevant text portion can be found on page 16, line 19, to page 19, line 8.

*Shinada* does not show an optical unit that is rotatable about a rotational axis and linearly moveable in a direction along the rotational axis to guide the light beam across width and length of a portion of the microfilm that is curved about the rotational axis during exposure. *Shinada* has a mirror 46 that linearly guides a beam across a width of the drum 54 by being rotated about an axis of rotation as indicated by the arrow in Fig. 13. The photosensitive material is not curved about the axis of rotation of the mirror 46.

Claims 1, 23-25, 32 are therefore not anticipated by the cited prior art reference.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims pursuant to 35 USC 102 are therefore respectfully requested.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103**

Claims 2-3, 5-22, 30-31, 33-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

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unpatentable over *Shinada* (US 5,475,523) and *Hebert* (US 6,332,734).

*Shinada* has been discussed above and reference is being had to this discussion.

*Hebert* shows the recording material being supported on an interior wall of the drum 20. However, *Hebert* does not show that the light source is configured to emit a light beam for exposing during an exposure time a microfilm based on a data stream supplied to the light source by a computer for generating differently sized image formats on the microfilm and that the at least one optical device comprises an optical unit rotatable about a rotational axis and linearly moveable in a direction along the rotational axis to guide the light beam across a width and a length of a portion of the microfilm curved about the rotational axis during exposure such that the differently sized image formats are produced in any arrangement on the microfilm.

*Herbert* as well as *Shinada* are silent as to the arrangement of different image formats on the film.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Shinada* (US 5,475,523) in view of *Hebert* (US 6,332,734) and *Hazman* (US 5,625,403).

Claim 4 is believed to be allowable as a dependent claim of claim 1.

Claims 26-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Shinada* (US 5,475,523) and *Hebert* (US 6,332,734) and *Newland* (US 6,600,549).

Claims 26-29 are believed to be allowable as a dependent claim of claim 1.

Claims 35-43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Shinada* (US 5,475,523) and *Newland* (US 6,600,549).

Claim 35 has been amended to include the steps of guiding a light beam emitted by a light source through at least one optical unit onto the microfilm and controlling the light beam emitted by the light source for exposing during an exposure time a microfilm based on the data stream, wherein the microfilm is exposed with the light beam line by line length-wise or width-wise for generating differently sized image formats in any arrangement on the microfilm by rotating the at least one optical unit about a rotational axis and linearly moving the at least one optical unit in a direction along the rotational axis across a width and a length of a portion of the microfilm curved about the rotational axis.

*Shinada* discloses a mirror 46 that linearly guides a beam across a width of the

drum 54 by being rotated about an axis of rotation as indicated by the arrow in Fig. 13 but does not show that the microfilm is exposed with the light beam line by line length-wise or width-wise for generating differently sized image formats in any arrangement on the microfilm by rotating the optical unit about a rotational axis and linearly moving the optical unit in a direction along the rotational axis across a width and a length of a portion of the microfilm curved about the rotational axis.

*Newland* discloses an inner drum where the beam 19 is passed through slit 21 onto the film 12 and is moved circumferentially along the drum. There is no disclosure in regard to the light beam being guided line by line length-wise or width-wise for generating differently sized image formats in any arrangement on the microfilm.

The combination of the two references cannot make obvious the generation of differently sized image formats in any arrangement on the microfilm.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims pursuant to 35 USC 103 are therefore respectfully requested.

#### **NEW CLAIM 44**

Claim 44 is directed to a method for producing a microfiche in a microfiche device wherein documents to be stored on microfiche are digitalized to form a data stream and a light beam emitted by a light source for exposing during an exposure time a microfilm based on the data stream is controlled in such a way that the microfilm is exposed with the light beam line by line length-wise or width-wise for generating images on the microfilm, wherein a portion of the microfilm exposed in the step of exposing is so long that the exposed portion of the microfilm is separated into two microfiche, wherein in the step of exposing different data are supplied to the portion such that after separation of the exposed portion of the microfilm, the two separate microfiche contain completely different contents. This is disclosed on page 23, lines 1-6, of the instant specification.

None of the cited references, alone or in combination, suggests or teaches exposure of the microfilm in this way.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

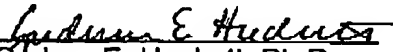
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Should the Examiner have any further objections or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call or e-mail from the examiner to discuss appropriate amendments to place the application into condition for allowance.

Authorization is herewith given to charge any fees or any shortages in any fees required during prosecution of this application and not paid by other means to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

Respectfully submitted on October 4, 2005.

  
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Encl.: time extension petition (1 sheet)